**Last Updated:** February 12, 2021



## Northern Philippines & Islands on a Shoestring - APNS

17 days: Manila to Moalboal

## What's Included

- Your G for Good Moment: Bohol Island Homestay, Bohol
- Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment Meet Your CEO and Group
- Your Local Living Moment: Batad Homestay, Batad
- Orientation walk (Baguio)
- Rice terraces trek (Batad)
- Cultural performance (Batad)
- Orientation to local community (Bohol)
- Chocolate Hills visit
- Beach time in Siguijor, Bohol, Panglao, and Moalboal
- Canyoneering Kawasan Falls
- Departure Transfer
- Internal flights
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT**: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

VALIDITY: Valid for all trips departing April 11th, 2018 - September 30th, 2018

## **Itinerary**

**NOTE**: Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

#### Day 1 Manila

Arrive at any time.

# Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your CEO and Group 18:00

Your opportunity to meet your CEO and fellow travellers, and learn more about your tour. Opt to join the group for a local meal afterwards. Don't forget to see the notice in the lobby (or ask reception) for the official time and place to meet up with the group.

## Day 2 Manila/Baguio

Travel north by bus, then enjoy an orientation walk upon arrival to Baguio. Opt to get a massage.

### **Orientation With CEO**

30m-1h

Enjoy a brief walk with your CEO. He/she will give you some tips on finding things like supermarkets, main squares, and ATMs. For more specific or in-depth information, an official guided tour is recommended.

### **Free Time**

Manila Half Day

Get outside and explore Manila.

#### **Local Bus**

Manila - Baguio7h

Climb aboard, grab a seat, and enjoy the ride.

## Optional Activities - Day 2

#### Massage

Baguio

400PHP per person

Lay back and soothe aching muscles with a famous local massage. Affordable and amazing, don't miss out

#### **National Museum**

Manila

Free

Visit the National Museum Complex, home to the National Museum of Fine Arts, National Museum of Natural History, National Planetarium and the Museum of the Filipino people. Browse the museums to gain an in-depth understanding of Filipino culture and heritage and see many historical artefacts and works of art.

## **Ayala Museum**

Manila

425PHP per person

Escape the hustle and bustle of the city and delve into the history and art of Filipino culture. Visit the permanent exhibition, the Diorama Experience, to learn about the key events in the country's history.

## Meals included: Breakfast

## Day 3 Baguio/Sagada

After another long day of travel, arrive at the outdoor paradise of Sagada, a base for adventuring.

## **Local Bus**

Baguio - Sagada7h

Climb aboard, grab a seat, and enjoy the ride.

#### Meals included: Breakfast

### Day 4 Sagada

Free day for hiking or a caving excursion. Opt to visit the hanging coffins the area is famous for.

The natural beauty of the area features caves perfect for exploring, hikes along an underground river system, a waterfall and delightful pool to cool off in after a day of exploring. Relax in the quiet serenity only found off the beaten path—this is a place to just sit back, relax and enjoy the scenery.

### **Free Time**

Sagada Afternoon

Kick back and relax or get out and do more exploring.

## Optional Activities - Day 4

## **Underground River and Waterfalls**

Sagada

Explore the unique natural formations in the area and cool off in the refreshing pools at the base of a waterfall.

### **Hike to Hanging Coffins**

Sagada

Enjoy an included hike to Sagada's famous hanging coffins. The local Igorot people are a people known for their weaving and the unusual burial system of their ancestors- hanging and stacking coffins, hewed from tree trunks in the limestone karst cliffs and caves near town.

## Massage

Sagada

400PHP per person

Lay back and soothe aching muscles with a famous local massage. Affordable and amazing, don't miss

#### **Bomod-Ok Falls Hike**

Sagada3h-4h

510PHP per person

Journey to the 200-metre Bomod-Ok falls by descending through rice paddies and over rocks. This scenic hike will pass local farmers as they work on their land. The trail can be uneven and slippery in parts but step with care and you will be rewarded with a majestic sight of the falls at the bottom.

### Meals included: Breakfast

## Day 5 Sagada/Batad

Travel via jeepney along scenic mountain roads and then by foot on local hiking trails to reach a local village for an overnight homestay experience. Discover the daily lives of the Ifugao people. Enjoy a cultural performance and a local dinner.

The trekking here can be challenging, especially in inclement weather. If you don't feel fit enough for the activity, your CEO can help you organize some optional activities.

#### Jeepney

Sagada - Batad4h

Squeeze on in to this colourful, unique, and only-in-the-Philippines jeep-bus.

### Rice Terraces Trek and Ifugao Village Visit

Batad1h

Trek through the Philippine mountains, along the edges of the famous rice terraces, to visit the village of Batad. Meet the indigenous Ifugao people and discover more about their daily lives built on the edges of these famous flooded fields.

## Your Local Living Moment: Batad Homestay

Stay in a typical Ifuago house and learn more about the mainstay of their lives – rice. For 2,000 years, generations of farmers have tended these terraces, planted and harvested their crops, then dried and ground the rice. Drink rice wine, see traditional clothing and admire the simple hut construction made with local materials and thatch roofs. You can't beat the view!

### Meals included: Breakfast | Dinner

#### Day 6 Batad/Banaue

Hike back to the main road and hop in a jeepney bound for beautiful Banaue. Enjoy free time and views of the famous rice terraces.

#### Jeepney

Batad - Banaue2h

Squeeze on in to this colourful, unique, and only-in-the-Philippines jeep-bus.

#### **Free Time**

Banaue Afternoon

Enjoy some time to check out Banaue and its surroundings.

### Meals included: Breakfast

### Day 7 Banaue/Manila

Free time to trek along the terraces or relax. After soaking in the last of the spectacular views hop on an overnight bus to Manila.

#### **Free Time**

Banaue Half Day

Get outside and explore more of stunning Banaue or just sit back and relax.

## **Overnight Bus**

Banaue - Manila9h

Curl up and catch a snooze en route to the next stop.

## Meals included: Breakfast

## Day 8 Manila

Explore this bustling city with free time.

#### **Free Time**

Manila Full Day

Get out and explore Manila.

## **Optional Activities - Day 8**

## **Optional Welcome Meeting for Travellers on Combos**

You may be a seasoned pro at group travel by now, but there will likely be some new travellers joining the group. Sit in on the welcome meeting to meet the newest members of your group and learn about the next leg of your tour.

#### **National Museum**

Manila

#### Free

Visit the National Museum Complex, home to the National Museum of Fine Arts, National Museum of Natural History, National Planetarium and the Museum of the Filipino people. Browse the museums to gain an in-depth understanding of Filipino culture and heritage and see many historical artefacts and works of art.

#### **Ayala Museum**

Manila

425PHP per person

Escape the hustle and bustle of the city and delve into the history and art of Filipino culture. Visit the permanent exhibition, the Diorama Experience, to learn about the key events in the country's history.

#### Day 9 Manila/Siguijor

Fly to Dumaguete and transfer to the port to board a boat bound for the mystical island of Siquijor.

#### **Plane**

Manila - Dumaguete1h30m

Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's... yup, it is a plane, actually.

#### Tuk-Tuk

Dumaguete - Dumaguete Point1h

Scoot quickly around the big cities inside a three-wheeled mini-taxi.

#### **Ferry**

Dumaguete Point - Siguijor45m

Get to the next spot on your route aboard a convenient and efficient ferry boat.

#### **Free Time**

Siguijor Evening

Do as much or as little as you'd like on this gorgeous island paradise.

#### Meals included: Breakfast

### Day 10 Siquijor

Enjoy free time to explore caves, waterfalls, coral-filled waters, and 106km (65 mi) of white-sand beaches. Snorkelling and diving are both great options here.

## **Free Time**

Siquijor Full Day

Do as much or as little as you'd like on this gorgeous island paradise.

# Optional Activities - Day 10

#### **Snorkelling**

Siguijor1h-2h

200PHP per person

Bring a snorkel and mask and get beach hopping. Bright coral and fish await!

## **Diving**

Siquijor

Flash your certification, grab a tank, and go! Great visibility, bright coral formations and colourful fish make the waters around Siguijor a great spot for diving.

## Meals included: Breakfast

### Day 11 Siguijor/Bohol

Hop on a ferry to the island of Bohol, home to the tiny tarsier primates and beautiful Chocolate Hills formations. Enjoy a stay at a G Adventures supported homestay and learn about local life from the community.

Enjoy a homestay at a community tourism project. Please note accommodations here are basic.

#### **Ferry**

Siguijor - Bohol2h

Get to the next spot on your route aboard a convenient and efficient ferry boat.

### **Private Vehicle**

Bohol45m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Your G for Good Moment: Bohol Island Homestay

Stay in a local community and learn firsthand from the residents about their day-to-day lives. Enjoy an orientation walk around the community to learn about various initiatives that are in force to promote a self-sustainable community. Opt to lend a hand with various tasks during your stay if you'd like. By sending our groups to a homestay, G Adventures is increasing income for the community and assisting with small business opportunities in hospitality.

#### Meals included: Breakfast | Dinner

## Day 12 Bohol/Panglao

This morning opt to join your host family as they tend to the farm before helping prepare a barbecue feast for lunch. After lunch together, say good bye to your hosts and head out to explore the famous Chocolate Hills.

#### **Chocolate Hills Visit**

Bohol

Visit the 1,200+ Chocolate Hills found across Bohol Island. While their origins remain a bit of a mystery, they are guite beautiful to look at and hike through.

#### **Private Vehicle**

Bohol - Panglao1h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

#### Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch

## Day 13 Panglao

Free day to tour the island or go snorkelling.

#### **Free Time**

Panglao Full Day

Enjoy some free time to explore the island and its attractions.

## **Optional Activities - Day 13**

## **Snorkelling**

Panglao

Grab a snorkel and mask then head into the beautiful turquoise waters of Panglao. Bright corals and a high density of fish make the waters around Panglao Island great for snorkelling.

#### Meals included: Breakfast

### Day 14 Panglao/Cebu City

Board a boat to bustling Cebu, home to the country's busiest sea port. Opt to take a tour of the city.

## **Private Vehicle**

Panglao - Tagbilaran City1h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

#### **Boat**

Tagbilaran City - Cebu City2h

Climb aboard and get your float on.

#### **Private Vehicle**

Cebu City45m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

## **Free Time**

Cebu City Half Day

Head out and explore this historic port city.

### Optional Activities - Day 14 Cebu City Guided Walking Tour

Cebu City

Enjoy a guided walking tour with stops at some important historical landmarks and the bustling Carbon Market, Cebu's oldest and largest produce market.

## Meals included: Breakfast

## Day 15 Cebu City/Moalboal

Transfer from Cebu to Moalboal. Beautiful beaches and bright, turquoise waters await. Opt to snorkel in an underwater wonderland surrounded by a school of sardines.

#### **Private Vehicle**

Cebu City - Moalboal3h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

#### **Free Time**

Moalboal Half Day

Enjoy free time. Opt to go scuba diving or just chill out on the beach.

## Optional Activities - Day 15 Sardine Run Snorkelling

Moalboal

Incredibly, the sardine run in Moalboal doesn't migrate but instead stays year round in an easy to get to snorkelling spot. Grab fins and a mask and jump in with a giant school of sardines.

#### Meals included: Breakfast

### Day 16 Moalboal

Today enjoy canyoneering at the beautiful Kawasan Falls and it's surrounding fresh water streams and pools.

Travellers not interested in canyoneering can enjoy the beautiful calm pools in Kawansan

#### **Kawasan Canyoning**

Moalboal8h

The stunning blue water of the Matutinao river flows through a secluded canyon which is the starting point of your action-packed canyoning tour. Jump, swim, float and slide your way towards the incredible Kawasan falls.

### Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch

#### Day 17 Moalboal

Depart at any time. Departure transfer included.

#### **Departure Day**

Not ready to leave? Your CEO can help with travel arrangements to extend your adventure.

## Meals included: Breakfast

### What's Included

Your G for Good Moment: Bohol Island Homestay, Bohol

Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your CEO and Group

Your Local Living Moment: Batad Homestay, Batad. Orientation walk (Baguio). Rice terraces trek (Batad). Cultural performance (Batad). Orientation to local community (Bohol). Chocolate Hills visit. Beach time in Siquijor, Bohol, Panglao, and Moalboal. Canyoneering Kawasan Falls. Departure Transfer. Internal flights. All transport between destinations and to/from included activities.

## **Highlights**

Explore the beautiful Chocolate Hills, learn about the tiny tarsiers, snorkel crystal-clear blue waters, relax on gorgeous white-sand beaches, trek along rice terraces to a remote village, experience Filipino culture and hospitality on an overnight homestay

## **Dossier Disclaimer**

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## **Itinerary Disclaimer**

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The

itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

## **Group Leader Description**

All G Adventures group trips are accompanied by one of our Chief Experience Officers (CEO). The aim of the CEO is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. They will provide information on the places you are traveling through, offer suggestions for things to see and do, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends. While not being guides in the traditional sense you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the countries visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects. We also use local guides where we think more specific knowledge will add to the enjoyment of the places we are visiting - we think it's the best of both worlds.

## **Group Size Notes**

Max 18, avg 12.

## **Meals Included**

15 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners

#### Meals

Eating is a big part of traveling. G Adventures understands the importance of breakfast to start your day, we strive to include a basic breakfast wherever possible. A typical breakfast may include toast, coffee and tea, however, they may also be Asian style, consisting of noodles, congee (rice porridge), bread or eggs; this may vary depending on the city we're visiting. Vegetarians will be able to find a range of different foods, although in some areas the choice maybe limited. Should breakfast not be included, your CEO can suggest some local options.

Travelling with G Adventures you experience the vast array of wonderful food that is available out in the world. Generally meals are not included in the trip price when there is a choice of eating options, to give you the maximum flexibility in deciding where, what and with whom to eat. It also gives you more budgeting flexibility, though generally food is cheap. Our groups tend to eat together to enable you to taste a larger variety of dishes and enjoy each other's company. There is no obligation to do this though. Your CEO will be able to suggest favourite restaurants during your trip. While trekking in remote regions, food is included, plentiful and made of fresh local ingredients. For all trips, please refer to the meals included and budget information.

For all trips please refer to the meals included and budget information for included meals and meal budgets.

### **Transport**

Taxi, plane, walking, ferry, public bus, jeepney.

### About our Transportation

We will be travelling via a variety of transportation types from local flights to public ferries to taxis. We believe that getting there is half the journey, so sit back and enjoy the ride.

## **Local Flights**

All local flights are included in the cost of your tour unless otherwise noted. It is important that we have your passport information at the time of booking in order to process these tickets. Internal flight tickets are issued locally and will be given to you prior to the flight departure. Baggage weight restrictions may apply. You are responsible for any bags that are overweight.

## **Solo Travellers**

We believe solo travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and solo travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

### **Accommodation**

Simple hotels (twin-share) or hostels (multi-share) (13 nts), homestays (2 nts, multi-share), overnight bus (1 nt).

## **About Accommodation**

Multi-share Accommodation: Multi-share same-sex accommodation is used on this tour, as such, if you are travelling with someone of a different gender you will not be in the same room. For private accommodation please see tours in our Classic Travel Style.

## Joining Hotel

For details of your joining hotel please refer to your tour voucher, G Account, the G Adventures App or contact your travel agent.

## Joining Instructions

If you have paid in advance for an arrival transfer, a G Adventures representative will be at the airport to meet you. Please take note, Manila's airport (Ninoy Aquino International Airport) is divided into 4 terminals. You will need to make your way to the appropriate pickup point based on the terminal your flight arrives into:

Terminal 1 - Arrival Extension Letter TUVWXYZ

Terminal 2 - Between Bay 13 & 14 (if international arrival) & Between Bay 8 & 9 (if domestic arrival)

Terminal 3 - Bay 7 outer lane

Terminal 4 - In front of arrival area

Our driver will always be sporting our G-Adventures signage with your names on a placard. If for any reason you are not met at the airport, please call our local support line at  $+63\,917\,305\,6426$  and  $+63\,945\,413\,4554$ . If you are unable to make contact for whatever reason, please make your way to the joining point hotel via taxi.

\*\*\*\*\*

If you have not pre-booked an arrival transfer through G Adventures, there are several transportation options at the Manila airport:

1) Airport Metered Taxi (vehicle colour is yellow, taxi line is usually found within airport premises, upon exit at the arrival area)

Flag down rate is PHP 75 and PHP 4 for every 350 metres, the total journey to the hotel should cost approximately PHP 400-500 (USD12), depending on traffic and your airport terminal of origin.

2)Airport-Coupon Taxi (vehicle colour is white, booth is usually found within airport premises, upon exit at the arrival area)

They have fixed rates per destination/distance, transfer going Oasis Paco Park ranges from PHP 600-1500. Rate varies depending on the airport terminal of origin and the vehicle to be used.

3) Regular Public Metered Taxi (usually White in color),

If you wish to take a regular taxi, you will need walk to the main road and hail a regular taxi as they are not allowed to get passengers inside airport premises. Flag down rate is PHP 40 additional PHP 3.50 for every 300 meters, the pproximate taxi fare from the airport to the hotel is 200-300, depending on traffic and airport terminal of origin

\*\*\*\*\*

Please note that Day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned for that day other then your welcome meeting in the evening, so you can arrive at any time. A welcome note will be left for you in the hotel so you have all the necessary information regarding the meeting time. If you arrive late, s/he will leave you a message detailing what time and where you should meet the next morning.

## **Arrival Complications**

We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier and contact us as soon as possible. If you have a pre-booked transfer, and you have not made contact with our representative within 30 minutes of clearing customs and immigration, we recommend that you make your own way to the Starting Point hotel, following the Joining Instructions. Please apply to your travel agent on your return for a refund of the transfer cost if this occurs.

## **Emergency Contact**

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call the G Adventures Local Office and then our G Adventures Local Representative (if one is listed below) . If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so they may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

#### AIRPORT TRANSFER

If you have purchased an arrival through G Adventures or if an arrival transfer is included in the cost of your tour, please note that:

Your arrival transfer has been arranged based on flight information provided to us. If you are advised of a flight schedule change within 48 hours of your scheduled arrival time, we will do our best to rearrange your arrival transfer however we cannot guarantee this. If your arrival transfer does not arrive within 30 minutes after you have exited the arrivals area please take a taxi to your start point hotel.

For issues related to airport to hotel transfers in the Philippines:

Contact: Vic Lusterio - +63 922 870 0481

**EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS** 

G Adventures Office Bangkok, Thailand

During Office hours (Weekdays, 9am-5pm Local Time)

From outside Thailand: +66 2 508 8630 From within Thailand: 02 508 8630

After hours emergency number (SE Asia Manager)

From outside Thailand: +66 87 049 6074 From within Thailand: 087 049 6074

G Adventures Local Representative (Philippines)

Emergency number: +63 917 305 6426

For issues related to airport to hotel transfers in the Philippines:

Contact: Vic Lusterio - +63 922 870 0481

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local office, please call the numbers listed below which will connect you directly with our Sales team who will happily assist you. Hours of operation by region can be found here.

Toll-free, North America only: 1 888 800 4100

Calls from UK: 0344 272 0000 Calls from Germany: 0800 365 1000 Calls from Australia: 1 300 796 618 Calls from New Zealand: 0800 333 307

Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

## What to Take

What you need to bring depends on the trip you have chosen and the countries or regions you are planning to visit. We suggest that you pack as lightly as possible as your are expected to carry your own luggage. As a rule we try not to have to walk more than 15-20 minutes with your bags which is why we recommend keeping the weight of your bags between 10-15kg/22-30lb. Suitcases are not recommended for G Adventures trips! \You will also need a day pack/bag to carry water, cameras and other electronics like iPods and mobile phones. If your trip involves overnights in homestays, villages or camping then you usually have the opportunity to rent sleeping bags if need be instead of bringing them with you.

There may be a luggage weight restriction for the internal flight(s) on this tour. Each passenger is allowed a maximum baggage weight of 20kg (44 lb). Additional charges for excess weight may apply. These charges are the responsibility of the passenger.

## **Packing List**

Cold Weather:

- · Long-sleeved shirts or sweater
- Scarf
- Snow Boots
- Warm gloves
- · Warm hat
- Warm layers
- Warm waterproof jacket

#### Documents:

- Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)
- Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)
- Visas or vaccination certificates (With photocopies)

#### Essentials:

- Toiletries (required) (Shampoo, bodywash, soap, etc.)
- Binoculars (optional)
- Camera (With extra memory cards and batteries)
- Cash, credit and debit cards
- Day pack (Used for daily excursions or short overnights)
- Ear plugs
- First-aid kit (should contain lip balm with sunscreen, sunscreen, whistle, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, bandaids/ plasters, tape, anti-histamines, antibacterial gel/wipes, antiseptic cream, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, rehydration powder, water purification tablets or drops, insect repellent, sewing kit, extra prescription drugs you may be taking)
- Flashlight/torch (Headlamps are ideal)
- Fleece top/sweater
- Footwear
- Hat
- · Locks for bags
- · Long pants/jeans
- Moneybelt
- · Outlet adapter
- Personal entertainment (Reading and writing materials, cards, music player, etc.)
- Reusable water bottle
- · Shirts/t-shirts
- Sleepwear
- Small travel towel
- Sunglasses
- Swimwear
- · Watch and alarm clock
- Waterproof backpack cover
- · Windproof rain jacket

## Warm Weather:

- Sandals/flip-flops
- Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/skirts are recommended)
- Sturdy water shoes/sandals
- · Sun hat/bandana
- Swimwear

Note: From Nov-Feb the northern regions can be cold, so please make sure you pack warm clothes.

## Laundry

Laundry facilities are offered by some of our hotels for a charge. There will be times when you may want to or have to do your own laundry so we suggest you bring non-polluting/biodegradable soap.

## **Visas and Entry Requirements**

All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your own responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. Visa requirements for your trip will vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as far as possible, but rules do change and sometimes without warning. While we provide the following information in good faith, it is vital that you check the information yourself and understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

Visa information specific to your destination and nationality can be found in our Important Pre-Departure Information page <u>here</u>

## **Spending Money**

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

## **Money Exchange**

During this tour the local currency you will use is the Filipino Peso. As currency exchange rates in Southeast Asia do fluctuate, we ask that you refer to the following website for the most up to date daily exchange rates: www.xe.com

The best way to carry your money is in debit cards, withdrawing cash in local currencies from ATM machines. ATMs are found throughout Southeast Asia and will generally accept cards on the Visa and Mastercard networks. It is a great idea to travel with both a Visa and Mastercard if at all possible in case of loss or problems with one card, you will have a back up. Please note, your bank will charge a fee for overseas withdrawals.

USD Cash is recommended for times when ATMs are not accessible. You should bring some cash with you for emergency situations (please refer to our trip dossier) but carrying only cash is a high safety risk. ATM card/s and some cash is the ideal mix. Travellers cheques can be tricky, timely and expensive to exchange. While we do not recommend that you bring them as your primary source of funds, it is great to have one or two cheques in case of emergency.

Cash advances can also be made with some banks but are time consuming and tend to have high fees attached. Credit cards can be used at some upmarket restaurants, and at some larger stores if shopping for big items. If you are bringing US Dollars, please make sure that the notes are new and in good condition. Notes older than 2003, or with any tears or blemishes may not be accepted. Be fussy with your bank when buying cash!

## **Emergency Fund**

Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$200 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

## **Tipping**

It is customary in Asia to tip service providers such as waiters, at approximately 10%, depending on the service. Tipping is expected - though not compulsory - and shows an expression of satisfaction with the people who have assisted you on your tour. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels. There are several times during the trip where there is opportunity to tip the local guides or drivers we use. You may do this individually, or your CEO will offer to collect the money and tip as a group. Recommendations for tipping drivers and local guides would range from \$1.5-\$3.5 USD per person per day depending on the quality and length of the service; ask your CEO for specific recommendations based on the circumstances and culture. Also at the end of each trip if you felt your G Adventures CEO did an outstanding job, tipping is appreciated. The amount is entirely a personal preference, however as a guideline \$20-25 USD per person, per week can be used.

## **Optional Activities**

#### Baguio

- Massage (400PHP per person)

#### Manila

- Ayala Museum (425PHP per person)
- National Museum (Free)
- Optional Welcome Meeting for Travellers on Combos

## Sagada

- Underground River and Waterfalls
- Hike to Hanging Coffins
- Bomod-Ok Falls Hike (510PHP per person)
- Massage (400PHP per person)

## Siquijor

- Snorkelling (200PHP per person)
- Diving

## Panglao

- Snorkelling

#### Cebu City

- Cebu City Guided Walking Tour

- Sardine Run Snorkelling

### Health

Please note inoculations may be required for the country visited. It is your responsibility to consult with your travel doctor for up to date medical travel information well before departure.

You should consult your doctor for up-to-date medical travel information well before departure. We recommend that you carry a First Aid kit and hand sanitizers / antibacterial wipes as well as any personal medical requirements. Please be aware that sometimes we are in remote areas and away from medical facilities, and for legal reasons our CEO's are prohibited from administering any type of drug including headache tablets, antibiotics, etc. In Asia pharmacies tend to stock the same western drugs as you get at home but they are usually produced locally so please bring the full drug name with you when trying to purchase a prescription drug. When selecting your trip please carefully read the brochure and itinerary and assess your ability to cope with our style of travel. Please refer to the Physical ratings for trip specific information. G Adventures reserves the right to exclude any traveller from all or part of a trip without refund if in the reasonable opinion of our CEO they are unable to complete the itinerary without undue risk to themselves and/or the rest of the group.

## Safety and Security

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewelery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your group leader has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it deemed necessary, due to safety concerns. Your Chief Experience Officer (CEO) will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy and explore at your leisure. While your CEO will assist you with options available in a given location, please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgement when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards), have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our CEOs to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s).

Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk. Read more about travel safety for ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling.

## A Couple of Rules

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of people in the sex trade is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our CEOs have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they utilize the services of paid sex workers, in any capacity.

## **Travel Insurance**

Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your leader, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy we require that at a minimum you are covered for medical expenses including emergency evacuation and repatriation. A minimum coverage of USD200,000 is required. G Adventures can provide you with the appropriate coverage. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. Some tours include adventure activities that require extra coverage (e.g. crampon use); please review your itinerary and make sure that you are covered for all included activities. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt

of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

## Planeterra Foundation - the non-profit partner of G Adventures

Planeterra International Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to turning travel into impact by helping local communities earn an income from tourism. Planeterra connects underserved local communities to the benefits of tourism by developing and supporting small community-owned businesses. These businesses support Indigenous people, empower women, grant youth access to employment opportunities, and protect the environment. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating their projects into G Adventures' itineraries globally.

G Adventures is Planeterra's largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs, so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

G Adventures Dollar-a-day Program - Make Every Day Count - Turn your travel into impact with <u>Planeterra</u> Foundation.

Did you know? Most communities around the world do not benefit from tourism. Give back to the places you visit on your travels by creating opportunities for local people to earn an income, and protect the environment.

Make every day count by donating \$1/day for the length of your trip, and join us in empowering the communities you will visit when you travel. 100% of your donation goes directly to Planeterra projects.

## **Local Dress**

In Asia the dress standard is more conservative than it is back home. When packing try to pick loose, lightweight, long clothing that will keep you cool in the usually hot and humid climate of Asian summers. In predominately Buddhist, Hindu and Muslim countries we ask that you dress respectfully and avoid very short shorts/skirts and singlets/tanktops when visiting temples or mosques or other holy sites.

### **Feedback**

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us that we'll give you 5% off the price of your next G Adventures trip if your feedback is completed on-line within 30 days of finishing your trip. Your tour evaluation will be e-mailed to you 24 hours after the conclusion of your trip. If you do not receive the tour evaluation link in the days after your tour has finished, please drop us a line at customersolutions@gadventures.com and we will send it on to you.

## Minimum Age

Minimum age of 18 years for this trip.

## **International Flights**

Check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.